PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 4329.2384

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIDEO ANDO ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/662,217

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Filed:

September 14, 2000

Examiner:

Unknown

For:

MEDIUM FOR STORING

AUDIO/IMAGE INFORMATION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT, & DUNNER, L. L. P. 1300 I STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

- 1. Japanese Publication No. 62-234474 discloses management information relating to a still image displayed simultaneously with audio information in which the audio information reproduces timing in a one-to-one manner.
- 2. Japanese Patent Disclosure No. 51-21726 discloses a method of reproducing sound synchronously with a still image display.

In addition, the undersigned has been advised that U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/348,267, filed July 7, 1999, and PCT Application No. PCT/JP00/02256, filed April 7, 2000, which are pending in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, may be related to the subject application. Copies of these documents have not been submitted.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under U.S. law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT, 8 DUNNER, L. L. P. 1300 I STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:

Richard V. Burgujian Registration No. 31,744

Date:

10/10/00

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT,

& DUNNER, L. L. P. 1300 I STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 202-408-4000

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